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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER PATENT RULES 97 AND 98**

This application has not received a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, this information disclosure statement is being filed under 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), i.e., before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

MAILING CERTIFICATE ON
LAST PAGE



Information Disclosure Statement

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98, a list of patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the PTO is provided on annexed Form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each item of information listed on the Form is submitted herewith. Also submitted is a copy of the foreign Search Report which cited each item of information.

As to each item of information, if any, which is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance thereof pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) is given in the Search Report which cited the information.

Consideration of this information disclosure statement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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is hereby declared to be the United States
Patent Office is hereby notified in an
any other address and for Commissioner of
Patent & Trademark, Washington, D.C.
I hereby declare that the above


Bruce L. Adams

Signature

December 28, 2001

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

S004-4257(PCT)

09/806,290

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

APPLICANT

Takashi TAKAHASHI et al.

FILING DATE

GROUP

March 28, 2001

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT NO.							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2	0	7	7	1	1	5	04-13-37	Knobel	58	117	
	AB												
	AC												
	AD												
	AE												
	AF												
	AG												
	AH												
	AI												
	AJ												
	AK												

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT NO.							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
													YES	NO
	AL													
	AM													
	AN													
	AO													
	AP													
	AQ													

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.